



FIRST GRADE



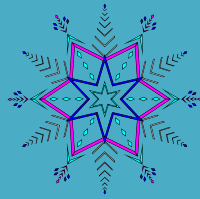
Hilda J. Barbour
Front Royal, VA

Mrs. Platter's Classroom Newsletter

Enrichment News



January



We will begin the month learning about the season of winter. We will learn how animals, plants, and people are affected by seasonal changes (Science SOL 1.7). Maybe we'll see some more flakes soon!

In social studies, we will revisit the topic of mapping (SOL 1.4 and 1.5). We'll construct a make-believe town of Barbourville and practice more using a legend and compass rose.

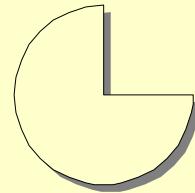
At the end of January, in science, we will learn about the three states of matter: solid, liquid, and gas (SOL 1.3). We will experiment with temperature to see how it affects matter. Don't be surprised if you have some budding scientists wanting to repeat our experiments at home. I did remind them to get permission first!

We will also begin learning about Earth and our planet's relationship to the sun (SOL 1.6). We will do some experimenting with light and shadows! Science is one of my favorite subjects to teach ☺.

How to contact me...

Voice mail: 622-8090

E-mail: kplatter@wcps.k12.va.us



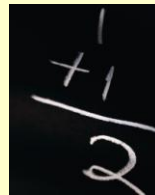
Math

Our main focus in January will be on geometry.

We will review the geometry concepts that we learned before the winter break and build on that knowledge while doing some engineering! We will be constructing toothpick and newspaper structures.

Following our geometry unit, the children will explore the concept of "fair shares" or equal parts (SOL 1.6). The children will learn about halves, thirds, and fourths.

Our geometry and fractions test will be at the end of the month.



Timed Math Facts test

The class has been taking their paper and pencil **Timed Math Facts** test every Tuesday. Your child needs to complete 60 math problems in 4 minutes or less. This is to help him/her add and subtract with **speed** and **accuracy**. The first test is facts to 6, the second is facts to 10, the third test is facts to 12, and the final test is facts to 18. **If your child hasn't mastered facts to 6 yet, please make that a focus for at-home nightly practice.**

I sent home cards to practice facts to 6. As your child masters each level, please return those cards. I will replace them with the new set from the next level.

Donations

If anyone can donate small toys to our treasure box we would be very appreciative. After students earn 20 stickers they get to go to the treasure box. Anything would be helpful. Thanks for your support. ☺



Reminders to Students

- Read a good book every night!
- Bring a hat and some gloves to school!
- Practice your math facts!



Reminders to Parents

1. Be sure to keep your radio turned on when bad weather hits. Listen for school delays/cancellations.
2. Keep reading log homework in the black Friday folder and return on Fridays.
3. Empty those book bags **nightly**!

PLEASE DON'T FORGET THAT EACH STUDENT NEEDS TO BRING IN AN INDIVIDUAL SNACK FOR SNACK TIME. STUDENTS MAY ALSO BRING IN A **NON-SPILL** WATER BOTTLE TO KEEP AT THEIR DESK.



January Dates

January 16th School is closed to observe Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday

January 25th End of the 2nd Advisory

January 26 & 27th No school/teacher workdays